

## **REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification and claim 1-9 have been amended. Claim 10 has been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-10 are pending and under consideration.

### **Substitute Specification**

In the Office Action page 2, paragraph 1, a substitute specification is required. Applicant made a bona-fide effort to enhance the language in the Substitute Specification filed herewith. No new matter has been added.

### **Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 1-9 have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. Specifically, the "guarantee value" term indicated as confusing has been replaced and clarified in context. In view of the claim amendments, Applicant believes that the rejection has been overcome. The scope of the claims has been preserved because the amendments do not add new limitations and the sole purpose of the amendments is to clarify the claim language.

### **Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102**

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0133387 to Wilson et al. (hereinafter "Wilson"). The reference date of Wilson is June 29, 2001, that is after January 31, 2001, the priority date of the present application. Therefore, Wilson is not a valid reference. Applicant files herewith the translation of the Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-024774.

### **New Claim 10**

Claim 10 is directed to an apparatus performing the method recited in Claim 1. Claim 10 is fully supported by the original filed specification and claims, for example, FIGS. 6A-B.

### **Conclusion**

Claims 1-10 are pending and under consideration. Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112. The prior art reference not being a valid reference in view of the priority date of the present application, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are patentable.

Serial No. 10/057,882

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: May 31, 2006

By: L Todor  
Luminita A. Todor  
Registration No. 57,639

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501